

REMARKS

I. Status Of The Claims

Claims 1-104 are pending in this Application.

Claims 1-104 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alam (U.S. Patent No. 6,336,124).

With this response, claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 28, 49, 70, and 91 are amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 28, 35, 42, 49, 56, 63, 70, 77, 84, 91, and 98 are independent.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Office Action rejects independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 28, 35, 42, 49, 56, 63, 70, 77, 84, 91, and 98 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Alam.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that Alam fails, for example, to disclose, teach, or suggest:

“... transforming, using a transformation table, the page elements in the target document ...”

as set forth in claim 1 as amended herewith (emphasis added), and as similarly set forth in each of claims 6, 11, and 16 as amended herewith.

Applicants note, for instance, that column 14 line 50 – column 15 line 67 cited by the Office Action discusses merely that:

“FIG. 16 shows a flow diagram illustrating a second process 1600 of step 1102 to convert an intermediate format document to a tabular HTML output document. Process 1600 attempts to partition each non-divisible cell generated by the first process 1400 and places each intermediate format block

at the corresponding coordinate in the output tabular HTML document”

(see Alam col. 14 ln. 53-59; emphasis added).

Alam fails, for instance, to disclose, teach, or suggest that “conver[sion]” is done using a transformation table.

As another example, Alam fails to disclose, teach, or suggest:

“... generating, within the source device format document,
source page elements with identifying source tags ...”

as set forth in claim 28 as amended herewith (emphasis added), and as similarly set forth in each of claims 49, 70, and 91 as amended herewith.

Applicants note that column 7 lines 32-47 of Alam cited by the Office Action discuss merely that:

“[e]ach tag may be associated with a specific portion of the document. Tags generally contain information about the specific portion such as identification as a heading, a table, a paragraph or a list and/or other information such as alignment, font, etc. Step 700 thus locates and stores the tags, if any, and the associated information contained therein”

(see Alam col. 7 ln. 32-38; emphasis added).

The Office Action apparently contends that Alam teaches generating source page elements via discussion of “stor[ing] the tags.” However, Alam fails, for instance, to disclose, teach, or suggest storing the tags within a source device format document.

As yet another example, Alam fails to disclose, teach, or suggest:

“... identifying transformation parameters for transforming target page elements based on the differences between the source device format type and target device format type ...”

as set forth in claims 21 and 35 (emphasis added), and as similarly set forth in each of claims 42, 56, 63, 77, 84, and 98.

The Office Action apparently contends that such is disclosed among column 7

lines 5-15, column 8 lines 8-21, and column 12 lines 35-67 of Alam. However, these portions of Alam discuss merely joining words of an “Input Format Document” into lines where “the appropriate Y coordinate(s) ... of the selected word” of the input format document are “compared with the appropriate Y coordinate(s) of the previous word in the current line” of that same input format document:

“Step 702: Locate Words in Input Format Document ...

Step 704: Join Words into Lines ...

A determination is made whether the selected word is in the current line at step 806. To determine whether the selected word is in the current line, the appropriate Y coordinate(s), i.e., in the vertical direction, of the selected word are compared with the appropriate Y coordinate(s) of the previous word in the current line to determine whether certain line parameters and/or thresholds are satisfied” (see Alam col. 7 ln. 56 – col. 8 ln 21; emphasis added).

Moreover, such discussion by Alam provides no disclosure, teaching, or suggestion of format types.

Applicants further note, for instance, that Alam’s discussion of “locating tables” in the input format document merely involves “evaluating a horizontal projection profile” of the input format document itself:

“[o]ne method of locating tables from a document in the original input format at step 708 generally comprises evaluating a horizontal projection profile of the document, determining upper and lower boundaries of a table by analyzing white space disclosed by the horizontal projection profiles, evaluating a vertical projection profile of the document, and determining a horizontal location of the table by analyzing white space disclosed by the vertical projection profiles” (see Alam col. 12 ln. 45-52; emphasis added).

In view of at least the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 28, 35, 42, 49, 56, 63, 70, 77, 84, 91, and 98, as well as those claims that depend

therefrom, are in condition for allowance.

III. Dependent Claim Rejections

Applicants do not believe it is necessary at this time to further address the rejections of the dependent claims as Applicants believe that the foregoing places the independent claims in condition for allowance. Applicants, however, reserve the right to further address those rejections in the future should such a response be deemed necessary and appropriate.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that this Application is in condition for allowance for which action is earnestly solicited.

If a telephone conference would facilitate prosecution of this Application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required for this submission, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4301-4001. **A DUPLICATE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS ATTACHED.**

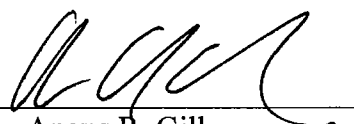
Furthermore, in the event that a further extension of time is required, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the above-noted Deposit Account and Order No.

Respectfully submitted,

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